Application No.: 10/648,001 Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-429

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-25 (cancelled)

26. (currently amended) A method of making <u>and implanting</u> an allograft lumbar or thoracic spine implant comprising:

cutting a portion of the calcaneus from a donor in a size and shape for insertion between two vertebral bodies, wherein a plurality of cross sections are cut substantially perpendicular to the long axis and from a central portion of the calcaneus, wherein each cross section comprises a thin layer of cortical calcaneus bone and a core of cancellous calcaneus bone; and

cutting the portion to provide two or more subsections to provide an implant for use in a transforaminal lumbar interbody fusion or posterior interbody lumber fusion, each implant including a thin layer of cortical calcaneus bone formed integral and partially surrounding a core of cancellous calcaneus bone; and

placing the implant in the lumbar spine. Claims 27-30 (cancelled)

- 31. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the implant has a weight bearing capacity of at least about 500 pounds.
- 32. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the implant has a weight bearing capacity of at least about 1000 pounds.
- 33. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the implant is comprised of at least about 60% cancellous bone by volume.
- 34. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the implant is comprised of at least about 80% cancellous bone by volume.

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35. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the implant is comprised of at least about 95% cancellous bone by volume.

36. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the implant is comprised of at least about 98% cancellous bone by volume.

Claim 37 (cancelled)

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the implant has a thickness between about 0.5 centimeters and 5 centimeters.